have recommended one per cent, that is, from 29 per cent to 30 per cent, increase in devolution of funds from the Divisible Pool of Government of India to the States. Sir, we have been fighting with the Government...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Sir, I am putting a direct question. Since two decades, there has been a proposal that allocations from Divisible Pool should be increased to 50 per cent. If this pattern is followed— one per cent in five years means. 2 per cent per year — it will take hundred years to come to this 50 per cent level. You allow the States to reel under the severe indebtedness. You allow the States to fail in fulfilling the aspirations of the people. When are you going to consider all these requests?

THE PRIME MINISTER (DR. MANMOHAN SINGH): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the question of indebtedness of the States was before the Twelfth Finance Commission and we expect that the Commission would have paid attention to these terms of reference. As far as the share of devolution is concerned, the Finance Commission is an autonomous body. I think the report of the Finance Commission is about to become available, or, probably, it has become available. I think, whatever its recommendations, the Government will take a view on that and the House will be informed in due course of time.

Denial by Pakistan for an extradition treaty

*228. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Pakistan has declined an Indian proposal for an extradition treaty between the two countries;

(b) if so, the specific reasons stated by the Government of Pakistan in regard thereto; and

(c) Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) India has suggested to Pakistan that the two countries enter into an extradition treaty. However, Pakistan has not responded positively to the proposal so far.

श्री अमर सिंह: सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूँगा। उन्होंने एक औपचारिक उत्तर दे दिया है कि हमने पाकिस्तान की सरकार से यह अनुरोध किया है कि वह एक्सट्राडिशन ट्रीटी के बारे में कोई कदम उठाए। भारत ने पाकिस्तान के प्रति इधर काफी नरमी दिखाई है और सम्बन्ध सुधारने के लिए काफी पहल की है। इस बदली हुई परिस्थिति में क्या मंत्री जी इस दिशा में कोई ठोस कदम उठाने का कष्ट करेंगे।

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, Sir, India can only request Pakistan to enter into an Extradition Treaty. India has requested Pakistan several times to enter into an Extradition Treaty. Especially, after the Bombay blasts, hijacking incident, and also after the attack in Parliament, every time, we have been requesting Pakistan to enter into an Extradition Treaty. But so far they have not responded positively. That is a fact.

श्री अमर सिंह: सभापति जी, क्या माननीय मंत्री जी सदन को यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि कितने लेटर रोगेटरी, कितने आतंकवादी और अपराधियों की तालिका या सूची आपने पाकिस्तान को सौंपी है और हर मामले में पाकिस्तान का रुख इन बदली हुई परिस्थितियों के बाद क्या कुछ नरम हुआ है या कोई सकारात्मक रुख दिखाई दे रहा है? अगर सूची भेजी है, तो क्या आप सदन को बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि हर मामले में पाकिस्तान का रुख क्या है और सरकार ने जो लेटर रोगेटरी दी है, उसके बारे में अभी तक क्या कार्यवाही हुई है?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, Sir, India has given a list of some of the fugitives from Indian Law who are now in Pakistan. In the aftermath of attack on Parliament, the Government had handed over to Pakistan a consolidated list of 20 fugitives from the Indian Law known to be residing in Pakistan on 31st December 2001, with the request that they be apprehended and handed over to India. It was also pointed out to Pakistan that 15 of the criminals in the list already had Interpol Red Corner notices issued against them which also provided Pakistan sufficient basis to take action against them. The list included the individuals responsible for the crimes such as Bombay blasts, hijacking, and Parliament attack in December. But, so far, they have not given anything. On the other hand, Pakistan did not respond positively to this. On January 12, 2002, the President of Pakistan in his Address to the nation stated that there was no question of Pakistani authorities handing over any Pakistani national to India. Sir, as regards the presence of non-Pakistani nationals, the President of Pakistan stated that Pakistan has not given asylum to any such person. Again, Sir, in the last meeting of the Home Secretaries, another consolidated list has also been handed over to them. That was given at the Home Secretaries' level

talks on Terrorism and Drug Trafficking held in Islamabad on 10-11 August, 2004. As a part of a composite dialogue, India handed over a consolidated list of 25 fugitives under the Indian law, including the list of 20 fugitives which had already been handed over to them in December, 2001. All these things are already there. We have been requesting them, but so far it has not been responded positively.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as the Minister has stated that the Government has given a list of people who are in Pakistan and those who had perpetrated some of the most heinous crimes in this country. Now, Pakistan's attitude, a non-cooperation, is well known. What I would like to know from the Minister is this. It is not a question of those who are non-Pakistani nationals, because Pakistan has given Pakistani identity, Pakistani documents, travel documents to those who are being sought by India for having committed these crimes. Has this matter been specifically raised with Pakistan? This is part (a) of my question. Part (b) of my question is this. There is a UN Resolution on the global fight against terrorism. Some of the individuals in this list are those against whom Red Corner Interpol alerts are there. I would like to know whether we have taken up this matter, in the absence of an extradition treaty and the attitude of Pakistan, with the UN and also with Interpol to put pressure on Pakistan to cooperate in apprehending these people.

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, one thing is that it is true that many of these fugitives under the law who according to our information are residing in Pakistan have committed very heinous crimes, and they are to be brought back to India. But we can only request and we have reqested. So far as the question relating to Interpol is concerned, we have already mentioned that 15 persons, out of this list of persons which we have handed over to Pakistan, are also under Red Corner alert by the Interpol. With regard to the matter whether it has been referred to the United Nations, I cannot give any reply at this point of time. But, at the same time, the Interpol has been informed and it has been going on.

SHRI BALBIR K. PUNJ: Sir, it is a well known fact that a number of terrorists have taken shelter in Pakistan. Many of them continue to have Indian identities, and many of them have been given new identities by the Pakistani Government. Now, Sir, through you, what I want to know from the hon. Minister is what steps the Government is taking, if Pakistan is

reluctant to sign an extradition treaty with India, so that it does not have to send back those very Indians and Pakistanis who are there and whom India wants. The second thing, Sir, is: Do we have the number of such people, wanted people, who are hiding in Pakistan and who are needed by us here? Can we get their names and also the number of such people? What steps the Government is taking to change this situation?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have already stated here that India has a list of these fugitives under the law, and that has been handed over to Pakistan in pursuing ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BALBIR K. PUNJ: You have given a list of 20 persons. Are there 20 people only? Aren't there many more people than this?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, we have only asked for 25 people to be extradited to India.

SHRI BALBIR K. PUNJ: We have given a list of 20 persons. But the number of people which we want from Pakistan must be much more. Are we just talking of a list of 20 persons which we had given in 2001? Hasn't the Government updated the list in 2004?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, I have already mentioned here about a list of twenty-five persons. With regard to the fate of twenty five very important criminals who have committed very heinous crimes in this country, I do not want to say the total number of criminals and their reaction. Anyway, that is matter about which I will have to collect information because it is a wider question. Why I am saying this is because it related to collecting a lot of information as to how many people from Pakistan are in India and how many people are from India are in Pakistan. As a matter of fact, we have already mentioned about one person. The United Nations Security Council, Al-Queda and Taliban Sanction Committee, established pursuant to Security Council Resolution-1267, has a consolidated the list of persons. The matter of apprehension, arrest and handing over the persons to the Indian Government also has been brought to the attention of Pakistan.

SHRI BALBIR K. PUNJ: But, Sir, I wanted to know about the number of people...*(Interruption)*...

श्री तारिक अनवर: सभापति महोदय, एक्स्ट्राडिशन ट्रीटी का यह मसला बहुत पुराना है और पिछले 20 साल से चल रहा है, लेकिन दुर्भाग्यवश अभी तक इसमें कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई है। मैं यह

जानना चाहूंगा कि अभी पिछले दिनों जब पाकिस्तान के प्रधानमंत्री का भारत दौरा हुआ था, उस दौरान क्या इस मसले को भारत सरकार की ओर से उनके समक्ष रखा गया था और इससे पहले जब हमारे प्रधानमंत्री और पाकिस्तान के राष्ट्रपति की भेंट-वार्ता हुई थी, क्या उसमें यह सवाल उठाया गया था? यह मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा और चाहूंगा कि वे सदन को इसकी जानकारी दें।

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, there will be a Foreign Secretaries' Meeting. In the Foreign Ministers' Meeting, this matter had been brought up for discussion. Thereafter, other important and very sensitive issues were to be discussed. This has not been discussed in detail, and so, in the meeting after the Foreign Ministers' meeting, the Secretaries will be coming for discussion...*(interruption)*...

श्री संजय निरुपम: सभापति जी, मेरा सीधा सवाल मुम्बई विस्फोटों के मुख्य अभियुक्त दाऊद इब्राहिम के संदर्भ में है। एक समय तक पाकिस्तान लगातार कहता रहा कि दाऊद इब्राहिम हमारे यहां नही रहता, पाकिस्तान में नहीं रहता, जबकि सारे सबूत रहे हैं कि वह कराची में है। अब जबकि अमेरिका ने यह घोषणा कर दी है कि दाऊद इब्राहिम एक इंटरनेशनल टेरेरिस्ट है और शायद अमेरिका ने यह भी कहा है कि वह पाकिस्तान में रहता है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि तब से, उसके बाद पिछले 6 महीने से जो पाकिस्तानी अथॉरिटीज हमारे देश में आई, उनसे जब दाऊद इब्राहिम के बारे में पूछा गया तो उन्होंने क्या स्टैंड लिया, पाकिस्तान की सरकार की क्या भूमिका रही?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Hon. Chairman Sir, about the Dawood Ibrahim case, I have already mentioned. In the context of Dawood Ibrahim being placed by the United Nations Security Council Al-Queda and Taliban Sanction Committee on the consolidated list established pursuant to Security Council Resolution-1267, we have already requested them to apprehend him and hand him over to India. But whenever the Pakistanis are coming here, whether we will be mentioning about Dawood Ibrahim, I cannot say. Naturally, the Government have taken up the matter with them. In the matter of Dawood Ibrahim, the Government has been pursuing to apprehend and also to deport him.

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Sir, what is Pakistan's stand now, during the last six months?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Sir, Pakistan has already informed that the persons mentioned in the list provided by us are not there. This is the thing. I also caught up with a portion of President Musharraf's statement. They have

not given any sign of it. They said that they are not ready to hand over the Pakistanis to us. That is the stand publicly taken by President of Pakistan.

SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Sir, that was two years back.

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: सभापति जी, जैसा मंत्री जी ने बताया है कि पिछली सरकार ने 20 लोगों की सूची दी थी और इस सरकार ने 25 लोगों की सूची दी है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि ये पांच कौन से फ्यूजिटिव हैं? ये पांच कौन से लोग है और किन अपराधों में शामिल हैं?

SHRI E. AHAMMED: Mr. Chairman Sir, the consistent stand taken by the Government of India, the previous Governments and this Government, is that this information shall not be made public in the national interest and it will defeat the very purpose for which we have been trying.

SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Mr. Chairman Sir, the best way of defence is offence. Pakistan has always been trying to finger our country through various proxy wars...*(interruption)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Upgradation of Highways in Bihar

†*225. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of National Highways under National Highways Development Project and Pradhan Mantri Bharat Jodo Pariyojana respectively in Bihar which are to be upgraded to four lane, project-wise;

(b) the extent and the point from which Patna is proposed to be connected and joined through four lane National Highways under Pradhan Mantri Bharat Jodo Priyojana; and

(c) the details of the progress of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (c) The total length of National Highways

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.